

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

David C. BAULCOMBE et al.

Application No.: 10/805,804

Filed: March 22, 2004

For: GENE SILENCING

Confirmation No.: 9959

Art Unit: 1638

Examiner: Ashwin D. Mehta, Ph.D.

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE --
EXAMINING GROUP 1638**

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office action herein, mailed 29 July 2008, time for response to which was set to expire 29 October 2008. The claims pending in the application, claims 116-130, were rejected and the rejection was made final. This response is filed within two months of the mailing date, and expedited procedure is requested. All of the rejections are made over the art. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection and the following discussion is offered in response. No amendments to the claims are proposed and the claims are included herein merely for the convenience of the Office. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Enclosures:

Exhibit A is the announcement of the Lasker Award to Dr. Baulcombe

Exhibit B is the announcement of the Franklin Institute Award to Dr. Baulcombe

Exhibit C consists of three journal articles published prior to the application date verifying the accuracy of applicants' characterization of the art.